

spiracies against his life he said, " I carefully concealed all that I could."<sup>1</sup>

In conformity with my advice La Sahla was sent to Vincennes, where he remained until the end of March, 1814. He was then removed to the castle of Saumur, from which he was liberated at the beginning of April. I had heard nothing of him for three years, when one day, shortly after the Restoration, whilst sitting at breakfast with my family at my house in the Rue Hauteville, I heard an extraordinary noise in the antechamber, and before I had time to ascertain its cause I found myself in the arms of a young man, who embraced me with extraordinary ardor. It was La Sahla. He was in a transport of gratitude and joy at his liberation, and at the accomplishment of the events which he had wished to accelerate by assassination. La Sahla returned to Saxony and I saw no more of him, but while I was in Hamburg in 1815, whither I was sent by Louis XVIII., I learned that on the 5th of June a violent explosion was heard in the Chamber of Representatives at Paris, which was at first supposed to be a clap of thunder, but was soon ascertained to have been occasioned by a young Saxon having fallen with a packet of detonating powder in his pocket.

On receiving this intelligence I imagined, I know not why, that this young Saxon was La Sahla, and that he had probably intended to blow up Napoleon and even the Legislative Body; but I have since ascertained that I was under a mistake as to his intentions. My knowledge of La Sahla's candor induces me to believe the truth of his declarations to the police; and if there be any inaccuracies in the report of these declarations I do not hesitate to attribute them to the police itself, of which Fouché was the head at the period in question. The following is the account of the event above mentioned, which

<sup>1</sup> This statement of Bonaparte is worth remarking as an unconscious refutation of the wild stories of the secret executions of the Empire. We find a man well acquainted with all the movements of the administration taking it for granted that an intended assassin would be publicly tried as a matter of course if he himself did not suggest other treatment. The case is the more noteworthy as Napoleon was anxious to hush up such attempts. The non-disappearance of this man may well answer all the absurd calumnies about the death of Captain Wright, etc.